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will be delivered to you as you wish.In mail orders enclose one additional  
two-cent stamp for return postage.WEATHER BULLETIN.  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—For lower  
Michigan: Snow; colder; north winds  
becoming variable.

## THE POOR PROBLEM.

If the council is to investigate the city poor department, it is to be hoped its examination will be thorough and impartial. It is not likely anything of a vicious character against the Director of the Poor will be substantiated. It will be found that he has performed his duties as conscientiously and faithfully as any of his predecessors in office. He has done as well as any other man would have done under all the circumstances surrounding the case. The office of Director of the Poor in this town is no sinecure. The vexatious character of the responsibilities of the office would perplex a saint. Municipal support of the poor is now looked upon as an inalienable right by a class of people who have become habitual hangers on at that department. It is a custom in theory, which is perhaps commendable, but which has grown to be a serious evil. In a number of the larger cities municipal charity or support of the poor have been entirely abolished. There is but little question that it could be done here with good results to the poor ultimately, and profit to the city as well. Grand Rapids of late years has expended more money for outdoor relief, in proportion to her population, than almost any other city in this country. Detroit, with three times our population, has expended but a few hundred dollars more each year than Grand Rapids, and yet we would quickly resent the imputation that we are a set of paupers or that the common people cannot earn a living, in ordinary times, here as well as elsewhere. If we are to judge by facts as they exist and results as we find them, the conclusion is inevitable that something is wrong with our system of relief. The investigation will develop a conflict of authority between the Director of the Poor and the committee on poor, rather than any effective remedy for existing evils. It will be found that the charter provisions defining the duties of either, is not sufficiently explicit to avoid clashes of authority. On general principles it may well be contended that the combined discretion of three men is better than the individual judgment of any one man. Following this theory it would be better for all concerned if full authority and responsibility were vested in the committee. But if in the committee, why elect and pay a Director of the Poor? If the agitation of the subject shall be so deep and far-reaching that the poor department, including the director and the committee will be abolished, the taxpayers will be relieved from a heavy and unnecessary burden. If this was done, private benevolence through the Charity Organization society and the churches and their societies would, in ordinary years, readily care for all deserving poor. Educating people to become paupers would then cease.

## SOLDIERS' HOME ANNEX.

The dedication of the woman's annex to the Soldiers' home, which occurred yesterday, was an event scarcely second in importance to that of the home itself. Both institutions are the result of a sentiment—one of the noblest sentiments of human nature—a tender regard for those in distress, coupled with a lively memory of high services rendered in the past. Our country at least has proved to the world that republics are not ungrateful. Never before were such vast sums expended in pensioning and caring for the soldier, his widow and orphaned children as have been expended in our country. We give this money gladly; it is not given grudgingly. It has been truly said that the women did as much if not more, and suffered as much if not more, on account of the rebellion as did our soldiers. Eternity alone will reveal what hundreds of thousands of mothers, wives, sisters and sweethearts suffered during those awful days. The soldier had much to divert his attention while in the service, but the women could but wait and wait, and pray, and fear the

worst, as only a woman can fear. Michigan has done herself great credit in providing food and shelter for these women, who did so much and would have done more if they could. It was a noble gathering that was present to dedicate the building. One governor—Governor Rich, and four ex-governors, viz., ex-Governors Winans, Bigelow, Jerome and Felch, gracing the occasion by their presence. Ex-Governors Alger and Blair sent their regrets. Besides these many other distinguished ex-soldiers and patriots were present. All honor to our brave women! May they live long to enjoy what a grateful state so freely gives them.

**NO SIMILARITY.**  
It is useless for the democrats to compare the Wilson tariff bill to the McKinley bill. There is no similarity of feature or principle between the two. Mr. McKinley labored to secure exact justice to all interests alike. The reverse is true of the Wilson bill. The one had for its aim and object a revenue sufficient for the needs of the government and at the same time an equal measure of protection for all American interests. The Wilson bill, on the contrary, fails to provide a revenue sufficient for the needs of the government and not only unjustly, but outrageously discriminates. Coal, iron and wood are placed on the free list in the Wilson bill. Thus the man who grows the wool is asked to compete with the Australian wool grower, while the man who weaves the wool is protected. The miner who delves in the bowels of the earth for ore must compete with his half starved European brother, while the man who manufactures the iron is protected to a degree. The McKinley bill did exact justice, not only to all interests, but in not one line or sentence was the interest of the laboring man, the farmer, or the artisan forgotten. On the other hand the Wilson bill caters to the few, juggles with the whole question and does injustice to the men who "pay for all." There is no comparison between the two, any more than there is between a just man and a rogue.

## SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE, ETC.

Democratic journals are very earnest just now in their protests against what they deem to be great unfairness on the part of the republican papers. Their special grievance is the insinuation that the troublesome days since Mr. Cleveland's election are due to the democrat party's acquirement of full control of the nation. If the insinuation was false, it would be only a case of chickens coming home to roost. Have democrats forgotten how tin peddlers traversed this country in 1890, frightening our rural cousins with the lie about the McKinley bill raising the price of all the necessities of life? Did they not really make millions of people believe universal bankruptcy would result from that "damnable unconstitutional outrage"? The elections of last fall clearly indicate that our people had not forgotten the campaign lie told them about the McKinley law. They found out who told the truth and who did not, and now they are the more ready to believe the truth. It is the fear that the great majority of the people now believe what republican papers and orators are telling them that causes that tired feeling to creep over the entire democrat body.

Our recent exportations of gold has created little or no comment on Wall street nor in the press of the country. Before the repeal of the Sherman law when exportations were made, however unimportant, telegrams were sent broadcast over the land foreboding impending doom. But Wall street had a purpose then, and it seemed necessary to scare the country into a panic to accomplish it. Cleveland, Graham & Co. were prime movers in the matter then, what are their plans now?

It is stated that one of the first bills that will pass the New York legislature, will provide for two republican and two democrat inspectors to preside at each election precinct. Tammany may be successful in its effort to repeal the federal election law, but it can only grind its teeth at the state statute for a time at least.

Governor Flower of New York in his annual message says that a considerable portion of the World's Fair appropriation of the state is still unexpended and suggests that the exhibits of the state be installed at the capital as a permanent Columbian museum.

Is the national democratic convention occurs this disunionist: "We denounce the McKinley bill as the culminating atrocity of class legislation." The Wilson bill had not been framed when that was written.

President Cleveland seems to be considerably smothered by rubbing so closely against the blackest side of Hawaiian affairs. Probably sooted him—Muskegon Chronicle.

Now the best information obtainable it seems to be a truth that President Cleveland is perfectly willing to drop the Hawaiian question. But can he drop it?

President Cleveland's Hawaiian policy may not do him any harm; so his friends assert. But will they please to inform the public what good it will do him?

## LEAD IN THE STATE

Distinguished Men Gathered  
Around a Banquet Board.

## HONORS TO EX-GOVERNORS

Banquet Tendered the Distinguished  
Guests by the Citizens of Grand  
Rapids—Toasts and Responses.

The banquet in Sweet's hotel last evening was one of the happiest events that has taken place in the city for many years. With several ex-governors as well as a large number of Grand Rapids' best after dinner speakers on the program, the event could not fail of being interesting and instructive. About 100 persons attended, and after discussing the excellent menu devoted two or more hours in listening to the bright thoughts to be said by some of Michigan's brainiest men. It was 1 o'clock this morning when the last toast had been said and the guests separated.

The Hon. T. D. Gilbert called the guests to order and announced that the committee arranging for the banquet had neglected to provide them with a minister to ask a blessing, so he would quote a verse from Robert Burns. He quoted the following:

"Some have meat and canna eat,  
Some have naught and want it;  
But we have meat and want it,  
And so the Lord be thank it."

The guests, 100 in number, took their seats while they applauded the quotation. The menu consisted of the following:

Blue Point, Salted Almonds,  
Green Turtle,  
Olives, Daint Sauterou,  
Fillet of Beef Larded a la Printanier,  
Potato Ribbons, French Fries,  
Cardinal Punch,  
Broiled Quail on Toast,  
Mort & Shandou's White Seal,  
Stewed Mushrooms, Asparagus,  
Chicken Salad, Fruits,  
Roquefort, Toasted Crackers,  
Cleared Coffee.

At the close of the banquet the toastmaster introduced Mayor Stuart, who spoke as follows:

Mayor Stuart's Address.  
"Mr. Toast Master, Honored Guests and Fellow Citizens—Michigan is an empire in itself. Its growth has been marvellous. When admitted into the nation it ranked twenty-third. It is now rated as the eighth largest state, with a population of more than 2,000,000. With its numerous resources it is better able to sustain its population than almost any other state. Its crowning glory is its public school system at the head of which is our noble university."

"Our governors have been elected to that position by their admiring friends. We have had a train of governors of which any state might well be proud. From Mason to the Hon. John T. Rich they have been the embodiment of our best citizenship. I express the regret that three of our ex-governors were unable to be here. Our great war governor is unable to be here on account of ill health. Grand Rapids has not yet furnished Michigan a governor, but shall try to do so should the supply become exhausted. Grand Rapids is noted for its hospitality and it is my pleasant duty to welcome to Grand Rapids these honored guests."

## Ex-Governor Felch.

Mr. Gilbert introduced ex-Governor Alpheus Felch. The venerable man whom all Michigan's citizens honor was greeted by long applause and cheers. He spoke as follows:

"There is no manhood that is not preceded by its boyhood nor womanhood that is not preceded by its girlhood. This state has passed its boyhood and girlhood. I remember the thirty years of territorial government in Michigan. I know of no history which has been written adequate to that period. We of those early days looked forward to the present day, but in our imagination we never thought that this state would attain the height it has attained among the sisterhood of states. I knew the men who first came to Michigan to build the foundation of this great state. Could anyone express the feelings of respect and honor with which I regard these men he must have a power of speech which I do not possess." The ex-governor then went into a detailed rehearsal of the formation of the territory and of the state.

Mr. Gilbert proposed the health of ex-Governor Felch. The whole company arose and drank his health.

## "Michigan, Her Resources."

Ex-Governor Winans was called to respond to "Michigan, Her Resources." He said: "For forty years I have been a resident in Michigan. I have never for a moment regretted that I came to this great state. It would be difficult to enumerate the resources of this state. I might discourse on the great intelligence of her people as one of her greatest resources, but I suppose I must speak on the natural resources of the state. As a farmer I suppose I may begin with the agricultural resources. The sun does not shine on a fairer state. I am proud to be a citizen of the United States and that my lot has been cast in Michigan."

## "Michigan in the War."

Gen. B. M. Cutcheon took the place of Gen. R. A. Alger and responded to the toast, "Michigan in the War." He said: "I am not in the habit of playing the substitute as a Michigan soldier. When called on to take a place on this program I could not refuse. 'Michigan in the War.' That woman's annex at the Soldiers' home is a part of Michigan in the war. Those old veterans—the drift of war thrown up by the waves of battle to lounge on the shores of time—are relics of Michigan in the war. Out of a total population of 740,000, 125,000 men able to bear arms, 94,000 shouldered their muskets and went to the front. Is not that a grand record? Every heart that remembers those times beats with pride. When Lincoln called for a regiment from Michigan, the state had not money enough to equip 1,000 men; we met and raised \$100,000 by personal subscription and before we ended the work there were thirty regiments in the field from the state. That war found the country a third class republic and left it the greatest on the earth. Michigan did her share freely, and liberally to keep old glory bright."

## Michigan Starred Night.

Ex-Governor Jerome was called on for an impromptu toast. He said he thought the reason the state had gained such eminence was because it was started right. Some wise man had said that the best thing that could befall a man was to be well born. Michigan was well born. He spoke of the early provisions in the territorial charter and told how those provisions had been carried out. He spoke of the men whose great integrity had founded the state so surely and safely. He said he was proud of Michigan, and if he had one thing

more than another to thank his parents for it was for making him a Michigander by birth.

## "Michigan, Her Women."

The Hon. ex-Gov. Josiah W. Bigelow spoke on "Michigan, Her Women." He paid a splendid tribute to the women of Michigan and the work they have borne in developing the state.

Roger W. Butterfield spoke of "Michigan, Her Public Institutions." He spoke of the grand places of learning in the state, the state public school, the reformatory, the schools for the blind, deaf mutes and others. He spoke of the great work of the reformatory in lessening crime and pauperism. He spoke of the higher schools of learning, the university, state normal school, the mining school, the agricultural college.

## "The City of Grand Rapids."

The Hon. N. A. Fletcher responded to the toast, "The City of Grand Rapids." He said he was proud of the city government. He said we were proud of the men who had served the government in political capacities and we were prouder of those who were willing to serve the state in any office of profit in the gift of the people. Mr. Fletcher told a good story or two to give spice to his speech and was frequently greeted with applause. He did not forget the deep water channel and told what advantages would accrue if deep water was secured.

"Our Honored Guests" was responded to by the Hon. T. J. O'Brien. He cut his speech very short, owing to the lateness of the hour and the fact that the Hon. John T. Rich was to follow him with a response. He said he once heard a man in speaking of Grand Rapids say it was a regular second Chicago. He was satisfied that the success Grand Rapids had attained was due to the sterling worth of the men who had settled here. He did not think any one of the ex-governors ever visited any city in Michigan where they met with a more genial and hearty welcome than in Grand Rapids. Col. J. J. Atkinson of Detroit was called on, but spoke very briefly. The health of the Hon. T. D. Gilbert was drunk and all joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne."

## A FIATERNAL FEAST.

Elegant Banquet of the Gamma Delta Psi at The Morton.

One of the prettiest banquet tables ever set in a local hotel last evening at the banquet of Delta chapter of the Gamma Delta Psi fraternity of the high school. It was the intention of the citizens to give the banquet to the ex-governors in The Morton, but the kids' knew where to get the prettiest and the best and pre-empted the Morton house dining-room some weeks ago, so that the old folks had to go elsewhere, and the spread last evening well rewarded the young people for their hustling. Tables were set for fifty plates in a hollow square in the new portion of the dining-room. Beside each plate was a boutonniere of rosebuds and daisies or of carnations and smilax. Potted plants and cabalabra holding pink and white flowers were interspersed along the tables and interlaced with festoons of smilax gave a most beautiful effect to the festal board. It was 9:30 p.m. when the members of the Delta Gamma Psi, singing a "frat" song to the tune of "John Brown's body," entered and took possession of the banquet hall. This is the song they sang:

Hurrah, hurrah for Gamma Delta Psi,  
Hurrah, hurrah for Gamma Delta Psi,  
Other frats may take the cake,  
But you get us take the pie.  
Shouting for Gamma Delta Psi.

The menus, which were tied with bows of the fraternity colors, garnet and white, and embellished with the cabalistic letters of the fraternity and the words annual banquet, were specimens of typographical art in every way worthy of the feast. The menu was as follows:

Salted Almonds, Blue Point, Olives,  
Green Turtle Soup, Celery,  
Patties of Oysters—Bechamel,  
Fried Smelts—Tartar Sauce,  
Quail Potatoes,  
Fillet of Beef, Larded,  
Stewed Mushrooms,  
Gamma Delta Psi Punch,  
Broiled Quail,  
Brown Sweet Potatoes,  
Slicing Salad,  
Neapolitan Ice Cream,  
Assorted Cakes,  
Water Crackers, Cheese,  
Coffee.

Prof. Gresson, Matthews and Whittemore were presented as honorary members of the chapter. The other banqueters and members of the "frat" were as follows:

Glenn W. Holmes, '87; Alonzo P. Ewing, '93; Percy M. Shaffer, '93; T. Gilbert White, '95; F. De Vere Warner, P. G.; Matthew J. Walsh, P. G.; Henry J. Heald, '94; Louis C. Corvill, P. G.; Charles F. Powers, '94; Eugene C. Worden, '94; Carrol H. Perkins, '94; George C. Shirts, '94; Fritz C. Hyde, '94; Fred Earle, '94; J. Charles Bradford, '94; Ralph C. Apled, '95; C. Edward Gresson, '95; Henry J. Idem, '95; J. Russell Thompson, '95; Benjamin B. M. theony, '95; Charles C. Watkins, '95; Robert E. White, '95.

The following program of toasts was well carried through and it was a late hour before Delta Chapter had added another laurel to its history in giving a most pleasant and enjoyable public banquet:

## Toastmaster, George C. Shirts, '94.

Friendship as an element of education.....  
William Albert Gresson.....  
The Present Chapter.....  
Charles F. Powers, '94.....  
The Gamma Delta Psi in the old days.....  
W. Herbert Wood, '88.....  
The Billy Goat.....  
Louis C. Corvill, '94.....  
The Gamma Delta Girls.....  
William Herbert Stuart, '93.....  
High School Journalism.....  
Henry T. Heald, '94.....  
Coming Years.....  
Matthew J. Walsh, '92.....

## AMUSEMENT NOTES.

There will assemble in The Powers' tonight one of the largest and most fashionable audiences of the season to witness the presentation of "Soldiers' Home." The entire proceeds go to the Charity Organization society, and thus philanthropy is mingled with pleasure. The final dress rehearsal was held last night and the work of the company was all that could be desired.

The eminent romantic actor, Mr. Robert Mantell, will appear at The Powers' next Thursday night in his new play entitled, "The Face in the Moonlight." The manager, Charles W. W., in the city arranging details and says the piece has been pronounced by the metropolitan critics to be a wonderful production.

About 300 people witnessed the exhibition of fancy, trick and acrobatic skating by Eddie Smith in Lockyer hall last evening. It was the finest ever given in the city, the features being a series of a minutes duration and a jump over six chairs.

There will be a "Diamond Breaker" matinee at The Grand today.

Smith's offers an excellent vaudeville bill.

## HOW LOVE WILL WIN

Old Folks Taught Again the Lesson by an Elopement.

## INDIANAPOLIS YOUNG PEOPLE

Come to This City in Charge of an Elderly Friend to Marry. Waiting the Blessing.

"John A. Conlan and wife of Indianapolis" is the way a bridal couple registered at The New Livingston yesterday. There was nothing peculiar about the signature, but the beauty of the black-eyed bride and the manly, straightforward groom, combined with a spice of romance attending their wedding, made the pair even more the object of comment than is common with young people for whom love's young dream has not had the bloom rubbed off. At an early hour yesterday morning County Clerk Eddy's force of deputies had their curiosity aroused by the appearance of a stylishly dressed young man and a pretty and well-dressed young lady who took out a marriage license and called for the services of a justice at once. Justice Proctor of Cascade responded, and they were soon made one. The couple were attended by Cortland Ball, a well-dressed old gentleman of 80, who seemed to set in the capacity of chaperon to the groom. After the ceremony the party drove to the New Livingston hotel in a carriage and the groom at once telegraphed the "old folks" that all was well—for it was an eloping party and the principals are well known in Indianapolis society. The groom is a member of the firm of P. Conlan & Sons, a well-known mortgage broker and real estate dealer, and the bride is the daughter of Charles Laffer, wholesale dealer in hats, caps and furs in the Hoosier metropolis. The young people seemed to be married, but the bride's parents thought it was too young and wanted them to wait four years. The young people decided not to wait, and with their aged friend, Mr. Ball, boarded a train for this city. In order to frustrate any attempt to detain the couple through telegraphic descriptions, the elder gentlemen acted as the lady's escort all the way from Indianapolis to the county clerk's office here. "I staged it," said the groom last night, "but now I'll stay it no longer. We are married good and fast. I have notified the folks at home; we have not heard from them yet. There is one thing I wish you reporters would do—and that is not to send one of your papers down to Indianapolis. I have arranged with a newspaper friend of mine to print the wedding in the Indianapolis News. The orthodox manner—say it occurred at the home of the bride, etc. Then the people outside of the family will learn nothing of how it happened." Thus spoke the young man, not knowing that the elopement has been sent out by telegraph and will appear probably in some Indianapolis paper this morning, properly embellished and written up with nothing concealed or naught set over in notice. Mr. and Mrs. Conlan went to see the "Diamond Breaker" last night. They say they like the town and will stay here until they hear from home the welcome "God bless you, my children."

H. W. Chittender of Burlington, Iowa; J. L. Waite of Parson's, Kansas; G. H. Helm and F. C. Swan of Brooklyn, New York; T. H. Biffel of Kansas City, Missouri, and George H. Hofricht of Philadelphia are among the advance guard of furniture buyers to arrive at The Morton. A peculiar feature of the present furniture situation is the scarcity of outside firms. About one-third the number of sellers usual at this time of year are now registered at The Morton. However, this is a phase of the furniture situation which local manufacturers are not deploring greatly.

Thomas A. Parrish of Grand Haven was at The Morton, in attendance upon the Soldiers' home annex dedication.

"Hi" Potts, the irrepressible Grand Haven Journalist, died at The New Livingston yesterday.

E. Feige of Saginaw is in the city buying furniture, and is registered at The New Livingston.

J. A. Haak, the well-known Luther lumberman, is a guest at The New Livingston.

Charles A. Wing, manager of the Robert Mantell company, is at The Morton.

Governor and Mrs. John T. Rich and ex-Governor Jerome are at The Morton.

P. C. L. Brundage of Muskegon is at The New Livingston.

## THEY ARE CONSOLIDATED.

Imperial Lodge No. 57, K. of P., United to Grand Rapids No. 6.

There was a full attendance last evening of the members of Grand Rapids division No. 6 and Imperial division No. 57 of the Uniformed Rank of P. in K. P. hall, corner of Ottawa and Monroe streets. The meeting was called for the purpose of considering the consolidation of the two divisions, and it was resolved, with comparatively no opposition, to unite the two divisions. The older division, Grand Rapids No. 6, will give the name to the new division, and members of Imperial No. 57 will join the new division as soon as they secure permits. This action will give Grand Rapids a strong division of the uniformed rank numbering more than 100 members and capable, it is thought, of once more going out and gathering in the prizes which in former times were most plentifully awarded to Grand Rapids Pythians.

After the business of the evening, the Sir Knights indulged in a light lunch, and afterwards, Lock's export and cigars helped to still further join the two commanderies in a union of good fellowship.

## THE MILITARY BALL.

The Militant Dances for Charity's Sake Last Evening.

The military ball given last night by Grand Rapids battalion at Custer Guard armory, was an exceedingly enjoyable event, though the rain and other attractions kept down the attendance, so that the upper peninsula miners, for whom benefit it was given, are not likely to realize any large sum from it. The ball was, however, a complete social success, and the gentlemen who acted as floor committee and the other members of the battalion are entitled to credit for the earnest efforts made in behalf of a worthy object.

The "Jury Lead" will be the attraction at The Grand next week. This piece is a very familiar and a very popular one, and it always draws a crowd. Smith O'Brien still leads the company.

## MORSE'S

The People's Trading Place.

4½c a lb for the best Granulated Sugar—all you want, 1 lb or 50 lbs.

Good straight Roller Flour, warranted satisfactory, 35c a sack of 25 lbs.

9 lbs Rolled Oats, 25c.

20 lbs N. O. Sugar for \$1.00.

5½c a bar Kirk's American Family Soap.

3-lb pails Swift's Lard com, 25c.

Cottolene, 3-lb pails, 33c.

10c a can for extra quality Tomatoes.

20-lb pails Jelly, for 50cK

10c for a package Quaker Oats.

Baker's Cocoa, 23c.

All Teas at a guaranteed saving of 33½ per cent. 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 40c and 50c a lb for Teas and your own money back if not satisfactory.

Our Coffees at 19c, 25c, 30c and 35c a lb are the best money can buy.

You are not in it these hard times if you don't buy your groceries from us.

## MORSE'S,

53,000 square feet filled with merchandise of all kinds.

COR. MONROE AND SPRING.

No Fake Sales  
For Us!

The truth is easily found out and yesterday being the first day of our great special sale we were complimented by any amount of ladies that we don't advertise "Fake Sales" or so-called consignment sales for drawing cards, but only advertise sales that are

Truthful  
Facts

And we are ready at any time to back anything we advertise. We make our own goods and must be sold again by us, which gives everybody a chance to buy Cloaks, Suits and Millinery at POSITIVE HALF original price at the only exclusive Cloak, Suit and Millinery Store here, which is

## SIEGEL'S,

50 AND 52 MONROE STREET.